



MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

VISITOR DISTRIBUTION & TRANSPORTATION STUDY/EIS

Purpose of the Visitor Distribution and Transportation Plan

The purpose of the Mesa Verde Visitor Distribution and Transportation Plan is to develop an efficient and sustainable transportation system to provide access to Mesa Verde National Park and distribution within the park to enhance conservation of the natural and cultural resources, respecting the sacredness of the site, and to enhance the visitor experience.

Need for the Plan (Issues)

With current peak season visitation levels and the conditions associated with increased visitor demand, there is a need to ensure the visitor has a quality experience, while also protecting the cultural and natural resources associated with the park. A strategy needs to be developed to manage visitors while at the same time protecting resources. In addition to visitor distribution and management strategies, transportation can be used as a tool to guide the visitor experience.

Visitation pressures have created concerns about:

- Visitor Crowding and Congestion
- Visitor Experience
- Visitor Orientation and Information
- Park Accessibility
- Safety
- Cultural and Natural Resources